

10/553277
JC06 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 OCT 2005

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 030104PCTUS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. :
First Named Inventor : X. Daniel Fang
Filing Date :
TC/A.U. :
Examiner :

Docket No. : 030104PCTUS
Customer No. : 25074

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
October 13, 2005

Mail Stop: PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

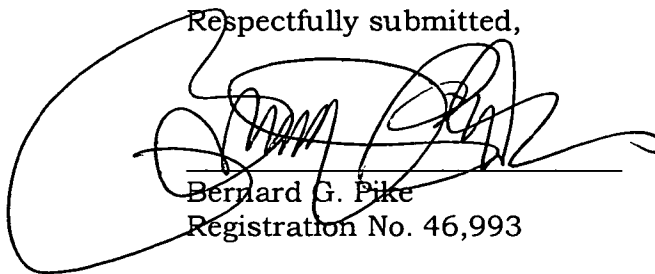
Applicant, in accordance with the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, hereby advises the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for 1449A/PTO) *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant*. A copy of each foreign patent document cited is enclosed.

Applicant notes that although the cited references may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement* "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)."

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), Applicant submits that no fee is necessary for consideration of this *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant* because an Office Action on the merits has not yet been mailed. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additionally required fees necessary for consideration of this *Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant* to Account No. 11-1110.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/553277
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	X. Daniel Fang
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number		030104PCTUS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-4,679,968	07-14-1987	Tsujimura, et al.	
		US-6,017,171	01-25-2000	Karlsson	
		US-6,164,878	12-26-2000	Satran, et al.	
		US-2003/0059262 A1	03-27-2003	Men	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 4244316 A1	06-30-1994	Krupp Widia GmbH		✓
		EP 1 013 365 A1	06-28-2000	Plansee Tizit Aktiengesellschaft		✓

Examiner Signature	/Willmon Fridie Jr/	Date Considered	11/19/2010
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /W.F./